



Library of Michigan

Department of History, Arts and Libraries

LEGISLATIVE AND STATE EMPLOYEE SERVICES NEWSLETTER WINTER 2007

WE'VE GOT ANSWERS!

Visit michigan.gov/lmtimelytopics for this and previous issues!

All You Need To Do Is Call 3-1300!

“What is the population of my county?” “Where can I get the newspaper article on my appearance in Saginaw?” “How do other states handle the school voucher issue?” “How can I get a copy of Public Act 162 of 1985?” These are just a few examples of the types of research assistance available from the Library of Michigan.

The Library of Michigan has a team of librarians available to you for research, obtaining materials, and training. We pride ourselves on confidentiality, nonpartisanship, objectivity and timeliness. Contact information is located at the bottom of this page.

In addition to our staff, you should know about our stuff! The Library of Michigan has an archive of newspapers from across the state and current subscriptions to 46 different titles. We have publications from every department of the State of Michigan and the US government in our documents collections. Many of your constituents would be excited to know we house one of the 10 largest genealogy collections in the U.S.

A Library on your Desktop at <http://mel.org>!

Do you read the *New York Times* every day? Do you need a recent article from *the Journal of Healthcare Law and Policy*? How about the latest research on tax structure? The Michigan eLibrary (MeL) brings all of these onto your desktop in full-text. Over 40 databases with articles from magazines, journals, and newspapers are available



to all residents of the state of Michigan through <http://mel.org>. Subject areas include business, health, education, government, the arts & humanities, and career information. Included under these subject areas are librarian-evaluated websites, which can lead to more productive results when searching the web.

MeL also has an ACT test preparation module that can help Michigan high school students prepare for their new exams and practice tests for many popular job-related exams such as those for firefighters, civil service workers and emergency medical technicians.

By purchasing these core information resources for the citizens of the state, the Library of Michigan saves the state's schools, libraries, colleges and universities over \$193 million per year! In 2006 the Center for Digital Government awarded MeL a Best of the Web award for State Government to Citizen Service.

The Michigan eLibrary also offers a statewide catalog of over 20 million books, including books on cassette or CD, which can be delivered to your office or your local participating library.

If you would like a an article about MeL for your constituent newsletter or a speaker to talk to your staff or organization, please contact Sue Davidsen, Coordinator of the Michigan eLibrary, at davidsens@michigan.gov or call 517-373-4466.



Call us for all your information needs!
373-1300: Still answered by a real person!
Phone: 31300 Fax: 35853 Law: 30630 Email: librarian@michigan.gov
Hours: Mon & Th 1-6; Tu, Wed, Fri 8-6; Sat 9-5

Interlibrary Loan Services/MeLCat

If the Library of Michigan doesn't have the material you need, we offer two easy ways for you to borrow from other libraries. MeL provides MeLCat, a catalog of materials in Michigan libraries. You can select and order materials yourself on MeLCat. All you need is a Library of Michigan card! Another way to obtain materials from other libraries is through our Interlibrary Loan office (ILL). Through ILL we are able to get materials and articles on any subject from libraries all over the world and deliver them to your office. Just ask!

Library Cards

Getting a library card at the Library of Michigan is easy. We can send an application to your office via ID mail. All you need to do is fill in the form and mail it back. This card gives you access to not only the material in our library but to the books available via MeLCat.

Free Research Training and Tours Offered!

The Legislative Team also offers training in the use of Library of Michigan resources – your place or ours! We can schedule tours of the library and

provide hands-on training for MeL and other online resources. To schedule call 3-1300.

Fun Facts...

***... about the
Library of Michigan!!***



The Library of Michigan pre-dates statehood! It has been serving Michigan state government and citizens since 1828.

There are approximately 25 miles of shelving in the Library of Michigan.

The Polaris Ring, the sculpture in front of the Michigan Library and Historical Center, is positioned such that viewers are able to stand behind the sculpture's center stone and look between the two tallest columns to see the star for which it is named.

The white pine tree in the center of the Rotunda was transplanted from Novi in 1986. At the time, it was 47 feet tall; today it measures 54 feet.

Database Spotlight

CQ Researcher is a weekly public policy "hot topic" magazine, each week dedicated to in depth coverage of a particular topic. For an idea of the kind of topics covered, see the list of Recent Issues in the picture below. This database offers searchable, fulltext access from 1991 to current. Access CQ Researcher from your desktop - http://www.michigan.gov/hal/0,1607,7-160-17451_18673_19391-52454--,00.html.

